THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

F- MONDAY, March 16, 1801.

MEMOIRS of M. Le Marquis De BOUILLE.

By a Friend to the French Royaliſts.

THE late M. le Marquis de Bouille was of an ancient and noble family, from whom he inherited an ample patrimony. He received an excellent education, and was no leſs celebrated for the elegance of his manners, than beloved for the goodneſs of his heart.

During the American war he ſerved in the Weſt Indies, and was appointed Commandant of all the French Weſt India iſlands; he was alſo advanced to the rank of Lieutenant Geral, and received the Knighthood of the moſt noble order of the Holy Ghoſt.

In the courſe of the war, ſeveral of the Britiſh iſlands fell under the dominion of the French, and the Marquis de Bouille was endeared to the vanquiſhed by the ſuavity of his manners, and the mildneſs of his ſway. At the end of the war, after a ſhort abode in the French metropolis, he came to London, and was received in a moſt favourable manner by the King; the Weſt India Merchants alſo paid the homage due to him for the liberality he had ſhewn, when their property was committed to his diſpoſal.

He afterwards viſited Holland, Pruſſia, Bohemia, and Vienna, being every where received with the confidence due to his rank and talents, and entruſted with the ſecret of thoſe important plans which, at the moment, agitated the boſoms of all the continental potentates. In the ſummer of the year 1785, he returned to Pruſſia, intending to have viſited the

court of Catharine II. but his journey was delayed by orders for his return to Paris, in conſequence of a grand project formed by France and Holland, for an invaſion of the Britiſh dominions in India, the command of which was to be intruſted to him. The execution of the project was, however, ſtill diſtant, and the revolution in Holland, in 1787, ultimately prevented its proſecution.

The derangement of the French finances now demanded new and effectual exertions: M. de Calonne, having conceived a wiſe and a juſt plan for repairing the deficiencies of the revenue, and having ſecured, as he thought, the neceſſary co-operation, convoked the Notables to meet in January, 1787; a meaſure which had not been recurred to ſince the year 1626, in the reign of Louis XIII. It is not neceſſary here to detail the cauſes which fruſtrated Calonne's intentions, and occaſioned the diſmiſſion of the Notables; M. de Bouille was one of their number, and, immediately on their diſſolution, was appointed Commandant of Metz, and of the provinces des Eveches.

In the year 1788, thoſe meaſures were purſued which laid the Government entirely at the mercy of intrigues, which afforded a pretext for the convocation of the States General, and for the recal of Necker. This quack Miniſter thought proper again to convene the Notables, merely to ſhew them that he diſregarded their advice. M. de Bouille was again a Member of this Aſſembly, and ſaw with indignation the efforts which were daily uſed, and generally encouraged to ſubvert the ancient conſtitution of the kingdom. He oppoſed in the moſt open and energetic manner, the projects of the innovators, detailed the miſeries to which they would give birth, and expoſed the errors both of Necker and La Fayatte in the moſt perſpicuous terms. Alarmed at his firmneſs, they procured an invitation to be ſent to him, through the Baron de Stael, Necker's ſon in law, to accept a command in the ſervice of the King of Sweden, who was then at war with Ruſſia. M. de Bouille would, with pleaſure, have accepted an offer which would have exempted him from witneſſing and taking a ſhare in the calamities which he ſaw ready to burſt forth in his own country; but was ſuddenly, in the month of March, 1789, ordered to his Government of Metz.

His conduct in this department, at ſuch a critical period needs no other eulogy than his own inartificial narrative:—

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"While I commanded at Metz," he ſays, "not one perſon was aſſaſſinated; property in the towns, as well as in the country, remained inviolate; not a ſeat was burned, nor any nobleman or landholder expoſed to the fury of the people, which evaporated in empty threats. For the firſt twelve months of the revolution, I was ſo happy as to preſerve, among the twenty thouſand men I had under my command, the ſame temper of mind as formerly." Here he had an opportunity of experiencing the ignorance, or more probably, the treachery of Necker, who refuſed an offer which he made to diſtribute part of the grain in his poſſeſſion among the people, on condition of its being reſtored to the garriſon at the next harveſt.

In this ſituation M. de Bouille paſſed the eventful year 1789, contemplating with horror the progreſs of the revolution, in which he took no ſhare, though earneſtly ſolicited, and that, under the moſt plauſible pretences, by La Fayette, who was his kinſman, and with whom he had been intimate from his infancy. But M. de Bouille penetrated into the feeble and crafty character of this vain pretender to ſuperiority in revolutions, and not only avoided a connection with him, but with every other political party which had any ſelfiſh view, derogatory to the true conſtitution of French Government: he declared with honeſt magnanimity, *I am neither ariſtocrat nor democrat, I am a royaliſt.*

But the efforts of the King's real friends received a fatal impediment from his viſit to the Aſſembly on the 4th of February, 1790, when, influenced by the advice of hypocritical traitors, he threw himſelf into the boſom of that rebellious body, and declared himſelf the head and protector of that revolution which had already deprived him of his beſt prerogatives, and his liberty, and was rapidly proceeding in thoſe meaſures which hurled him to an untimely grave.

The diſtribution of arms among the populace, and the diſſemination of Jacobin principles among the ſoldiery, had already induced moſt of the commandants of provinces to reſign, or to abandon the kingdom. M. de Bouille, who had long contemplated with confidence the garriſon under his command, as a reſource for the royal family in the expected extremity, was now convinced no effectual uſe could ever be made of their ſervices: he exerted himſelf with effect in maintaining order and quelling inſurrection, but earneſtly ſolicited leave to reſign, and ſeek another country.

This reſolution he was induced to abandon by the King's own requeſt: he took the conſtitutional oath, and permitted

the federation of the national guards in his government with the troops of the line.

Having by theſe acts, in a certain degree relinquiſhed the line of conduct which his own principles would have dictated, M. de Bouille tried to ſerve the royal cauſe, as connected with the imaginary, but unfounded, conſtitution, but in vain. The diſſimulation of La Fayette, his folly, which gave a decided aſcendency to the Jacobins, rendered all ſuch attempts unavailing; and the troops who had been called to Paris to aſſiſt at the abſurd ceremony of the confederation, ſpread anarchy and inſurrection in every part of the kingdom. The garriſon of Metz, in Auguſt, 1790, commenced a moſt dangerous inſurrection, which was with difficulty ſurpreſſed; Nancy, in the ſame month, followed the example: the heroiſm of Deſilles, who oppoſed his perſon to a loaded cannon, was inſufficient to reſtrain the popular fury; M. de Bouille after eſſaying, without effect, every conciliatory meaſure, was reduced to the neceſſity of employing force, which he was authoriſed to do by a decree of the Aſſembly; and, after an obſtinate conteſt, reduced the inſurgents, though not without great ſlaughter. For this timely effort he was aſſailed with all the virulence of Jacobin vituperation; the ready pens of the Palais Royal were employed in aſperſing his character, and the eager echoes of Jacobin invention in other countries were prepared to repeat with atrocious additions, the calamities derived from that never-failing ſource. The Orleans' faction, who could never forgive this check on their favourite projects, harraſſed the Aſſembly with perpetual motions on the ſubject, and eſſayed all means to obtain the cenſure of the Marquis, in which they were at length ſucceſsful.

The conteſts of the various factions who pretended to give laws to France, tended only to one certain end, that of degrading the King, and making him miſerable. La Fayette was become his jailor, and with the office, adopted the manners of a turnkey. Worn out with repeated indignities, which were daily renewed and increaſed under various pretences, the King reſolved to quit the capital, and ſeek refuge in one of the frontier towns, under the command of M. de Bouille. Our limits do not allow a recapitulation of the negociations with Mirabeau; the projects of various individuals; the cauſes which retarded the King's departure, and occaſioned the final fruſtration of his plan. Throughout this critical emergency, which forms one of the moſt embarraſſing criſis of his life, Louis diſplayed the utmoſt integrity of heart and goodneſs of diſpoſition. M. de Bouille, failing

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in all his efforts to ſecure the retreat of his Sovereign, reluctantly ſecured his own ſafety by quitting a land which he conſidered irreparably diſhonoured, and where the advantages of birth, fortune, long-ſervices, and unſhaken loyalty, could no longer ſecure him an aſylum. Still intent on rendering the lateſt ſervice in his power to the King, M. de Bouille wrote a letter to the National Aſſembly, avowing himſelf the ſole perſuader and contriver of the King's flight, and endeavouring, by every means, to divert the force of popular fury from the King to himſelf: his efforts were inſufficient to ſave the King; but the demagogues eagerly ſeized the opportunity of ſtigmatizing a man whom they had long regarded as one of their moſt formidable enemies. The Aſſembly paſſed a decree of accuſation againſt him and his ſon, their eſtates were confiſcated, and the National Convention afterwards offered a reward to the man who would aſſaſſinate him.

M. de Bouille, not ſeeing in the year 1791 any thing which denoted hoſtile preparations againſt France, offered his ſervices to the Empreſs of Ruſſia, but being preſſed by the King of Sweden, who was then at Aix-la-Chapelle, he accepted a commiſſion in his ſervice. Guſtavus and Catherine had formed extenſive and beneficial projects relative to France, which were however fruſtrated, partly by the backwardneſs of Auſtria and Pruſſia, partly by the inflexible neutrality of Great Britain, and finally by the aſſaſſination of the King of Sweden.

Soon after this event M. de Bouille quitted the ſervice of Sweden. He had now, to uſe his own expreſſion, connected his fate with that of two Sovereigns equally unfortunate, and henceforth reſolved to ſecure himſelf from the frowns of fortune by troubling her no longer.

On the preparations in the year 1792 to invade France, he was offered a command of ſix thouſand troops, but pecuniary difficulties prevented the intended arrangement, and he ſerved as a volunteer, under the Prince of Conde. After the retreat of the allies, he took no public ſhare in military or political tranſactions.

M. de Bouille publiſhed in the year 1797 his Memoirs relating to the French Revolution, a work in which the moſt excellent principles are combined with a clear and ingenuous narrative, and in which the author has the ſingular candour to review his own conduct with frequent and decided diſapprobation.

Subſtance

Subſtance of the moſt intereſting Parts of the Travels of C. F. Damberger, a German, through the interior Parts of Africa, from the Cape of Good Hope to Morocco, between the Years 1781 and 1797.

[Continued from Page 188.]

THE man who has the hardihood to explore, out of curioſity, and without intereſted motives, an uncultivated and ſavage country, and to expoſe himſelf to the perpetual repetition of the moſt imminent dangers, muſt poſſeſs no common degree of courage. We left our traveller "under the conſtant apprehenſion of being murdered." How many horrors would a poliſhed European attach to ſuch a ſituation! Our fortunate though daring adventurer eſcaped from the apprehended diſaſter, and had the courage to meet and to overcome freſh difficulties.

Damberger, at length, to his great joy, met with ſome milk and ſugar, which he eagerly devoured. He alſo found the man who carried away his carabine, which, as well as his knapſack, were ſoon returned to him. He was likewiſe told, that the deputy-chieftain, by whom he was beaten, had been the means of ſaving his life, as by interfering he had put an end to the diſpute.

He next gives an account of a feſtival which is celebrated "at every full moon, if the moon be not covered with clouds; it is called *mikaphikm* (God's-day), but if it be overcaſt, the whole kraal grieves, from a ſuppoſition that the Divinity is diſpleaſed. They draw the ſame concluſion with reſpect to the ſun, whom they alſo worſhip; if he riſes overſpread with clouds, they ſay, that the nation over which he ſtands, has made him angry; if at noon, when the ſun ſtands over them, the clouds diſperſe, they rejoice in the idea that they have appeaſed his wrath by good actions, and celebrate a feſtival; but if the contrary happens, and the ſun which roſe in ſplendour be overhung with clouds at noon, they mourn, and aſſemble to try and puniſh thoſe who have offended againſt the law; if in this caſe the ſky brightens, the judge is deemed to have acted right and fair; but if a ſtorm ſucceed, they conclude that he has pronounced an unjuſt ſentence, and they aſk pardon of the puniſhed.

"Being taken ill in the night with ſevere pains in my bowels, I aroſe to go out of the hut, but tumbled over my hoſt, who ſet up a dreadful ſcream. On my aſking his pardon, and acquainting him with my indiſpoſition, he grew calm, aroſe,

kindled a fire, brought ſome dry leaves, which he directed me to chew, and led me out of the hut; a violent vomiting enſued, and the pains abated. The next morning I purſued my journey, attended by my hoſt, who ſhewed me the way, and gave me ſome more of the above dry leaves, which did me much good; until noon my road was good, and lay through a wood, where I found large quantities of yellow plumbs and apples. I reached afterwards an arm of the river Tumba or Tambu, which by the natives is called *Mh-ky-ſak;* it abounded with fiſh, a number of which I caught with my hand; kindled a fire to roaſt them, and made an excellent meal. On my left hand I perceived ſeveral huts, but being neither in want of food nor drink, I avoided them, and turned a little to the north-eaſt. About the fall of night I ſaw thirty huts before me, walked towards them, and met a young woman, whom I addreſſed in the language of the Caffres. She looked at me, but returned no anſwer; I made a ſign that I was thirſty, and ſhe pointed, in reply, to the river from whence I came. On my expreſſing further by ſigns, that I wiſhed to ſleep in a hut, ſhe pointed to the graſs on which we ſtood. I then offered to go with her, but ſhe puſhed me back; I therefore let her go before me, and followed: at the firſt hut I came to, I ſaw thirty men armed with clubs, whom I aſked whether they intended to kill me; 'Yes, (they anſwered,) if I was a robber.' I told them that I was not; they drew near, viewed my firelock, took my bundle from my back, and examined it. One took my axe, another my firelock, and the whole party withdrew: I collected the things which they had ſcattered about, went to the firſt hut, and enquired after the caujata. Inſtead of an anſwer, I received two blows with a club from a young man, who ruſhed out of the hut and thruſt me away. I went to a ſecond hut, and met with the ſame reception: night coming on, I was neceſſitated to quit the kraal, where inſtead of hoſpitality, I met with ill-treatment, and to lay down on the graſs. Unable to ſleep, I conſidered in what manner I ſhould act to recover my firelock and axe: at break of day I ſaw three men coming out of the kraal; I thought they were in ſearch of me, aroſe, walked up to them, and addreſſed them in the moſt reſpectful manner, and entreated that they would procure me my axe and firelock, and thus enable me to purſue my journey. They aſked me from whence I came, and whither I was going? Having heard my anſwer, they went back to the kraal, and I lay down on the graſs in expectation of the event; but as none of them returned, I took courage, and

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went to the kraal, to ſeek for my axe and carabine. At the very entrance of the village I ſaw the men with whom I had converſed before; they threatened me with their clubs, but I perſiſted in my demand, drew my cutlaſs, and went ſtraight up to the huts. They retreated, but at the ſame time called out—*bokatotago kokhmahoo* (if you enter our huts, we will kill you on the ſpot); I took no notice of their threats, and advanced with intrepidity and ſpirit. But it ſtruck me that it would be more prudent to apply to the chief, and I went immediately to the fourth hut, which was decorated with boughs, and thereby diſtinguiſhed as the reſidence of the chieftain. I haſtened up to it, for I was followed by a whole troop of armed men, and expoſed to the utmoſt danger: on my arrival at the hut, the chief ſallied forth, holding a large club in his hand. I entreated his aſſiſtance, and protection againſt his comrades, who threatened to kill me, becauſe I demanded my property, of which they had robbed me the preceding evening. He liſtened with the utmoſt attention, conducted me to the hut, and pointed to the graſs on which I was to ſit down. Having done ſo, I was aſked by him, 'from whence I came, and whither I was going?' I anſwered him, and particularly acquainted him that I had already ſpent ſix months among his countrymen, had hitherto met with a kind reception, and no where with ill treatment, but in his kraal. I ſhould not have come here at all, I added, but that the neighbouring chiefs had aſſured me, that here alſo I ſhould receive protection. This ſpeech had its effect; he anſwered, 'Here too thou ſhalt be ſafe; thy effects ſhall be reſtored; ſtay here, I will go and fetch them.' He ſaid a few words to the by-ſtanders, which I did not underſtand, and went away: in a ſhort time after he brought me the axe and the ſtock of the firelock, but the barrel of which was already broken in pieces to convert into haſſagays. I was happy in having recovered my axe, but complained to him that the gun was rendered uſeleſs, by its barrel being broken. He ſent for the man who had taken it, talked with him, and was about to ſtrike him with his club; but I ſprung up from the ground, embraced the chieftain, and entreated him not to hurt the poor fellow. I ſucceeded in allaying his paſſion, and he laid down his club: I was obliged to reſort to this means of conciliating the friendſhip of the by-ſtanders, leſt they ſhould way-lay me on my departure. Having eaten ſome more plumbs and milk, I quitted that odious kraal, attended by the chieftain, who ſhewed me the right road. In the evening I reached the river Tambu, and perceived kraals

on my right and left: though my ſtock of proviſions was very ſcanty, conſiſting only of ſome meat and plumbs, yet I did not venture to viſit them, but lay down on the bank of the river, where I felled a tree to ſerve me as a raft for croſſing the river. The next morning I effected my paſſage, and began to fiſh; but could not catch any thing except ſome muſcles, which I broiled on coals, and made a good meal. Before me lay a plain, chequered with ſand and reed-graſs; I took my road acroſs it, as I wiſhed to avoid the huts, which I perceived on the chain of mountains to the eaſtward. In a kind of meadow I found on a little ſand-hill an oſtrich neſt with ſeven eggs, which gave me a deal of pleaſure. Although I had travelled but ſix miles, I determined to ſtop here for the night, eſpecially with a view to dreſs ſome of the eggs. While I was gathering firewood I found a number of good apples, and collected alſo other proviſions ſufficient for two days. In the night I was viſited by wolves, tygers, and elephants, at whoſe ſight I was not alarmed half ſo much, as at the ſight of ſome wild dogs, who chaſed ſome buffaloes at a few paces diſtance from me. In order not to attract their attention, I moved as cloſe to the fire as I could poſſibly bear, and ſtirred it conſtantly, that the ſparks might ſpread around: I remained without moleſtation, but was obliged to keep awake the whole night. Towards morning, having ſlept a few hours, I journeyed onward; two hours after I arrived at another arm of the river Tambu, perceived the river itſelf towards the north-eaſt, and on its banks ſeveral huts were viſible, which I could not poſſibly avoid. I therefore purſued the ſame route, and reached the river at five o'clock in the afternoon; it had overflowed its banks, and inundated the adjacent country. From the heavy falls of rain, which generally attend a thunder-ſtorm in theſe parts, ſuch inundations are frequently effected in a few hours.

"I came to the huts near the river, the inhabitants of which I found engaged in fiſhing. On my aſking permiſſion to ſtay all night in their kraal, they looked at each other, but returned no anſwer. My bundle proving rather troubleſome to me, I put it on the ground, and endeavoured to aſſiſt them in fiſhing, which they did not object to. At laſt one of them addreſſed me in a language which I did not comprehend; apparently angry on account of my ignorance, he left me and joined his companions; I followed, and addreſſed ſeveral of them, but none could give me an anſwer. I now endeavoured to expreſs my deſires by looks and geſtures, aſked for ſome milk, and obtained a potful, for which I gave an

oſtrich egg to the man who brought it; at firſt he would not accept it, but he took it at length. I ſat down near the huts, and was ſoon ſurrounded by a crowd, who did not do me the leaſt harm. The circumſtance that I could not make myſelf underſtood gave me great concern, as they would probably have beſtowed on me many other favours."

(To be continued.)

GENERAL REVIEW *of* POLITICS,

For February, 1801.

FRANCE.

INTELLIGENCE was received from Paris on the 18th of February, that peace between France and the Emperor of Germany was ſigned at Luneville, on February the 9th. The leading features of the treaty are, that the Rhine becomes the boundary of the French territory in Germany, and the Adige of that which is called the Ciſalpine republic. Tuſcany is aſſigned to the Duke of Parma, a Prince of the Houſe of Spain. The Grand Duke is to have his recompence from the ſecularizations in Germany; and the Emperor adds to his Venetian acquiſition the iſlands in the Adriatic. This treaty, which recognizes alſo the Ligurian, Helvetian, and Batavian republics, was announced to the Legiſlative Body by a meſſage, in which Bonaparte ſpeaks with his uſual hoſtility towards England: "All the commerce of Aſia," ſays he, "and immenſe colonies, are no longer ſufficient to ſatisfy its ambition. It is neceſſary that the ſeas ſhould be ſubjected to the excluſive ſovereignty of England. It arms againſt Ruſſia, Denmark, and Sweden, becauſe Ruſſia, Denmark, and Sweden have by treaties mutually guaranteed their ſovereignty and their flags."

The views of Bonaparte now ſeem to be, to induce the Emperor of Ruſſia (under a promiſe of reconquering Malta for him) to threaten the Ottoman Porte; and by that means to ſucceed in maintaining a footing in Egypt. This conjecture meets with ſome confirmation, from a note that has been preſented by the Ruſſian Ambaſſador, at Conſtantinople, to the Divan, ſtating, that the Ottoman Court muſt not permit the landing in Egypt of the Britiſh forces, under General Abercrombie; and inſinuating, that any diſobedience to this injunction may lead to very fatal conſequences, as it will

will be looked upon as an act of hoſtility on the part of the Turks againſt Ruſſia. In this dilemma, with a Ruſſian fleet in the Dardanelles, nothing leſs can be expected than the ſubmiſſion of the Porte, under ſuch a weighty combination of force.

The Emperor of Ruſſia has ſent a moſt ſplendid embaſſy to the Chief Conſul of France, and has baniſhed Louis the Eighteenth, and his niece, the Ducheſs D'Angouleme, from the Ruſſian territories.

The Tribunal of Caſſation aſſembled on the 30th of January to take into conſideration the ſentence of Ceracchi and his accomplices. Citizen Arnauld, ſubſtitutor of commiſſion, argued for ſome time on the merits of the caſe. At one o'clock the Tribunal withdrew into the council-chamber, for the purpoſe of deliberation.—Having returned to the hall, it pronounced the rejection of the appeal made by Ceracchi, Arena, Lebrun, and Dumerville, who have been ſince executed.

On the 16th of January a Ruſſian officer arrived in Paris, in ſeventeen days, from Peterſburgh. He was the bearer of a letter to the Chief Conſul, in the hand-writing of the Emperor Paul, and the conſolidation of the union between the two ſtates appears from its following regulations reſpecting Ruſſian ſhips:—

All veſſels of the republic, and all cruizers bearing the French flag, are forbidden to interrupt the ſhips of war, or the commerce of the Emperor of all the Ruſſias, or his ſubjects. On the contrary it is directed, that all French veſſels ſhall afford ſuccour and aſſiſtance to the ſhips of Ruſſia. All prizes of Ruſſian veſſels which may be made after February the 19th, ſhall be declared null by the Council of Prizes.

HOLLAND.

At Helvoetſluys, and in the Texel, the moſt active preparations are carrying on to get a Dutch fleet ready for ſea, to be commanded by Admiral de Winter, and deſtined, according to ſome opinions, to join the combined Spaniſh and French force at Breſt; or, as others ſay, to co-operate with the fleets of Ruſſia, Sweden, and Denmark.

PORTUGAL.

This country ſtands in great danger of falling under the controul of France. A large army was preparing in the neighbourhood of Bourdeaux, deſtined to march through Spain, for the invaſion of the Portugueſe dominions; and

about the middle of January, according to intelligence from Madrid, the Marquis de Caſtel Franco, Major of the Spaniſh King's body guards, was to ſet off for Liſbon upon an extraordinary miſſion, the object of which is alledged to be, to demand of Portugal whether ſhe choſe to enter into an alliance with Spain and France; or, whether ſhe preferred remaining in alliance with Great Britain? In the firſt caſe, ſhe was to order the Engliſh and emigrant troops to evacuate the Portugueſe territories; in the ſecond, ſhe was to be informed that war would be immediately declared againſt her.

RUSSIA, SWEDEN, and DENMARK.

It appears now certain that the convention of the neutral powers was ſigned on the 16th of January, by the Miniſters of Ruſſia, Denmark, and Sweden, and that Pruſſia had ſince acceded to it under certain conditions. The Daniſh Miniſter, in anſwer to a note tranſmitted to him by Mr. Drummond, the Engliſh Envoy, (demanding a full explanation of the nature, object, and extent of the confederacy) ſtates, that Denmark "not knowing that any of the powers engaged in the negociation (at Peterſburgh) had made a declaration, or adopted meaſures relative to its object, at which Great Britain might take offence or umbrage, cannot, without ulterior explanation, reply to that part of Mr. Drummond's note, that the negociation has no other object than the renewal of the engagements, which, in the years 1780 and 1781, were contracted by the ſame powers, (Ruſſia, Pruſſia, Sweden, and Denmark,) for the ſafety of their navigation."

The beſt comment upon this treaty is perhaps that of Mr. Grey, on the 2d of February, in the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, who ſays, "He had looked into thoſe authors who treat of the law of nations, and alſo, into many of the treaties of Europe, and he was ſo far from diſcovering any right to interrupt the courſe of neutral veſſels, that he found that the direct contrary principle was often acted upon in the courſe of the laſt century. In the year 1740, the King of Pruſſia declared that free bottoms made free goods. The ſame principle was acted upon by the Dutch in the year 1762. How are we then to account for the conduct of his Majeſty's Miniſters in not including Pruſſia in the hoſtility which they wage againſt the armed neutrality?—They will not attack Pruſſia, becauſe ſhe is ſtrong; but they will attack Sweden and Denmark, becauſe they are weak."

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The Emperor of Ruſſia having thought proper to publiſh in the Gazette of St. Peterſburgh, as the motive for the violation of the rights of nations that he had been guilty of in the ſeizure of our ſhips, and the impriſonment of our ſeamen, " that a convention had been entered into with the Court of St. James's, in virtue of which the Ruſſian forces were to take poſſeſſion of Malta, ſo ſoon as it ſhould ſurrender to the combined fleet;" it is ſtated, from good authority, that, it is true a convention to cede the iſland of Malta to the Order of St. John of Jeruſalem, (of which the Emperor Paul has made himſelf Grand Maſter) was drawn up; but it was never ſigned on the part of this country. Let the Miniſters of Paul I. it is added, produce, if they poſſeſs it, any convention whatſoever, ratified by Great Britain, reſpecting the fate and deſtination of Malta before the concluſion of a general peace.

GREAT BRITAIN.

At home an important event has taken place, namely, a change of Miniſters, a circumſtance which has given riſe to a variety of rumours, none of which, however, have as yet accounted for it in a ſatisfactory manner.

A difference of opinion, it is ſaid, has for ſome time paſt exiſted in the Cabinet, on the ſubject of Catholic emancipation in Ireland; the delay of the King's ſpeech on the opening the ſeſſion, took place, it is added, in conſequence of this difference of opinion. Mr. Pitt was decidedly in favour of the meaſure; and it is ſtated, that the Marquis Cornwallis and Lord Caſtlereagh had principally ſucceeded in effecting the Union, by pledging themſelves to the completion of it, in conſequence of direct inſtructions to that purpoſe from the Britiſh Cabinet.

After much deliberation, however, between Mr. Pitt and his friends, and other members of the Cabinet, in which a great perſonage is ſaid to have felt it neceſſary to declare his determination to reſiſt the promiſed conceſſions, it was at length agreed to waive the meaſure for the moment, and omit any reference to it in the King's ſpeech. But Mr. Pitt, conſcious that he was bound to ſupport an engagement which had been thus ſolemnly contracted, inſiſted that the queſtion of Catholic emancipation ſhould be ſubmitted to the Imperial Parliament. In this inſtance he was ſeconded by Earl Spencer, Lord Grenville, Mr. Dundas, and Lord Caſtlereagh; and oppoſed by the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Portland, and the Earl of Clare. In conſequence of which,

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he gave in, on Friday the 9th of January, his reſignation to his Majeſty, declaring, that the faith of Government ought to be inviolable, and the pledge given to the Catholics redeemed. His reſignation was followed the next day by thoſe of Lord Grenville, Earl Spencer, Mr. Dundas, and Mr. Windham.

It does not appear that Mr. Pitt was out-voted upon this occaſion in the Cabinet, (which may be conſidered as a ſelect committee of the Privy Council) as the Members who acted with him were more numerous there, than thoſe who differed in ſentiment from him. It would, on the contrary, ſeem that the queſtion became a ſubject of general conſideration in the Council, and was not limited to the Cabinet, ſince the Earl of Clare and Lord Caſtlereagh are known to have taken a leading part in the buſineſs. It is, therefore, becauſe the meaſure was found inimical to the opinion of the firſt perſonage in the country, that the reſignations which have been noticed have taken place. The adviſers of the Sovereign, on this occaſion, have acted, no doubt, from the pureſt motives, being led to apprehend that the meaſure propoſed would endanger the eſtabliſhed church, and that it would be a violation of the following clauſe in his Majeſty's coronation oath: "I promiſe to the uttermoſt of my power, to maintain the laws of God, and the true profeſſion of the goſpel, and the Proteſtant reformed religion, eſtabliſhed by law; and I will preſerve unto the Biſhops and clergy of this realm, and to the churches committed to their charge, all ſuch rights and privileges as by law do or ſhall appertain unto them or any of them."

How far the propoſed emancipation can be conſidered as a violation of this oath, we leave it to more competent judges to determine. It is a delicate ſubject in which we have no inclination to interpoſe. With reſpect to this being the ſole cauſe of Mr. Pitt's reſignation many have their doubts, and are diſpoſed to think, that finding himſelf baffled in all his views, and little hope remaining of a counter revolution in France, he has embraced the firſt opportunity of withdrawing from a ſituation in which he ſaw little proſpect of encountering any thing but diſgrace.

England is now left alone to contend in a war with the northern confederacy; but it ſhould be remembered, if the new Miniſtry mean to follow the ſteps of the laſt, that having no place to trade to in the Baltic, or perhaps elſewhere on the continent, we ſhall have no means of retaining our com-

merce, of continuing our manufactures, of paying our exorbitant taxes, and of ſupporting the war.

On Wedneſday, the 18th of February, Mr. Pitt, notwithſtanding his previous reſignation, opened the Budget. The following are

THE NEW TAXES.

Tea, 10l. per cent. on all above 2s. 6d. per lb.		£300,000
Paper, double the preſent duty, with a few exceptions, and ſome allowance for newſpapers -		135,000
Printed Goods, additional duty of 2½d. on all paying 3½d. - - - - - - -		140,000
Sugars, 1s. 10d. per cwt. the convoy duty made proportionable, and the temporary one to ceaſe		123,000
Timber, one third of the preſent duties - -		100,000
Pepper 3d. per lb. home conſumption - -		8,000
Ditto, exported 6d. per lb. - - - -		92,000
Lead, 20s. per ton, exported - - -		12,000
Train Oil, 20s. per ton - - - -		12,000
Raiſins, 1l. 6s. per cwt. - - - -		12,000
Poſt-office, - - - - - - -		150,000
Stamps, - - - - - - - -		340,000
Horſes for pleaſure, where only one, 10s. - - - -	£63,000	136,000
On all above one, 20s. - -	73,000	
Ditto, for huſbandry, 4s. - - - -		170,000
		£. 1,730,000

On the faſt-day the King caught cold going to the Chapel Royal, which has ſince been attended with very alarming ſymptoms of body and mind. This circumſtance has, in ſome degree, ſuſpended the operations of Government, and has occaſioned a very extraordinary pauſe in the progreſs of the new Miniſterial arrangements, the particulars of which we muſt poſtpone to our next monthly ſketch.

Example of the Power of Imagination over the Body.

[From the Port-folio of a Man of Letters.]

IN 1751 the waters of Glaſtonbury were at the height of their reputation. The virtues of the ſpring were ſuppoſed to be ſupernatural, and to have been diſcovered by a revelation made in a dream to a perſon named Matthew Chancellor.

cellor. The credulous expected, not merely to be cured of incurable diſtempers, but to recover loſt faculties and mutilated limbs. An old woman, in the workhouſe at Yeovil, who had long been a cripple, and uſed crutches, was ſtrongly tempted to drink of Glaſtonbury waters, with a firm perſuaſion of being cured of her lameneſs. Several bottles of water were procured for her by the maſter of the workhouſe, and ſuch was the effect of the miraculous draught, that firſt one crutch, and, ſoon after, the other, was laid aſide. The wonder was extolled, the fame of the miracle ſpread, when the cheat was diſcovered. The maſter of the workhouſe proteſted to his friends, that he had fetched the water from an ordinary (and neighbouring) ſpring. It need ſcarcely be added, that when the force of the woman's imagination had exhauſted itſelf, her infirmity returned, and the crutches were reſumed. This ſtory may afford an admonition to the modern diſciples of mineral magnetiſm.

On the VALUE of HONEY.

BEFORE the plantations of ſugar in the Weſt Indies, honey muſt neceſſarily have been in much higher requeſt, and borne a higher price, than at preſent: the wax likewiſe muſt have been of conſiderable value, as the manufacture of tallow-candles is not very ancient: there is a ſtatute of Henry VI. with regard to wax-chandlers, the preamble to which ſets forth, that wax was uſed in great quantities, not only for the purpoſe of making candles, but likewiſe images of ſaints: beſides this, mead was now the liquor of luxury, and ſtill continues in great requeſt in Wales. Honey is a conſiderable object of the ancient French law, under the title of "aboilage," and, together with wax, is frequently mentioned in the laws of Hoel Dha; where the perquiſite of the King's Great Chamberlain, to as much wax as he can bite off the end of a candle, is particularly recognized.

A REFLECTION.

IT is ſeldom that any evil is leſſened by violent means. The moſt thinking part of mankind are the leaſt diſpoſed to recommend ſudden changes, and the moſt ignorant are the moſt fond of them.

AN ANECDOTE.

DR. WALKER, Profeſſor of Natural Hiſtory at Edinburgh, a man of great ſcience, and alſo of great worth, is not a little finical in dreſs. His hair-dreſſing was, till lately that he got a wig, the work of two or three hours every day. Once when he was travelling from Moffat, where he then preached, to pay a viſit to the late Sir James Clerk, of Pennycuick, he ſtopped at a country barber's ſhop on the way. The barber, who, although he had often heard of his cuſtomer, but was unacquainted with his perſon, did all that he could to obey the numerous directions which he received; with aſtoniſhing patience did he for three hours, curl, uncurl, friz, and labour at the Doctor's hair; at length, however, he could not avoid exclaiming, "Why, in all my life, I never heard of a man ſo ill to pleaſe as you, except the mad Miniſter of Moffat!"

Anſwer, by H. Humphries, of Exeter, to W, England's Charade, inſerted December 29.

MANY in rivers like to BATHE,
Where numbers find a watry grave.

☞ Similar anſwers have been received from G. England, of Uplyme; William Sherwell, of Modbury; Primroſe, of Weſt Coker; J. Smith, of Exeter; T. Churchouſe, of Yeovil; W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; T. Taylor, Bridgewater; Serjeant Aſh, of the Exminſter Volunteers; and J. H. of Plymouth Dock.

An ANAGRAM.

HORATIO NELSON.

Honor eſt a Nilo.

My honour is from the Nile.

An ENIGMA, *by G. England, of Uplyme.*

ATTEND, ye bright wits, to the lout-expreſs'd ſtory
Of one who comes trembling with terror before ye,
Being confident when I'm expos'd to your views
I ſhall meet with ill-treatment and dog-like abuſe.

But having once held up my ſtand in this nation,
I long to reviſit each bleſs'd habitation.
Tho' not with that freedom with which I have acted—
No! ſuch freedom as this can't again be expected.
For oft have I been with the rich and the great,
Nay the King on the throne, Sirs, my weal to complete.
At church I've been too, and as ſome do report,
'Twas there was my chiefeſt delight to reſort.
No minſtrel e'er acted ſuch tricks on the ſtage
As I have been ſaid to in ſome diſtant age.
Tho' I'm as blind as a beetle, full many ſuppoſe
I've led half the nation at once by the noſe.
But what ſtill is ſtranger, one hint that concerns me
Is that thoſe whom I lead, Sirs, can ſeldom diſcern me.
While others who ſtand either diſtant or nigh,
Can clearly behold me with half of an eye.

But while I thus held ſuch a ſtate in the nation,
My vot'ries, well pleas'd to obey my dictation,
Some cunning impoſer, as artful as me,
Obſerv'd that I ſtraiten'd his bleſs'd liberty;
And filling ſome friends with a notion the ſame,
They began inſurrection, like heroes of fame.

At once I then call'd my adherents to arms,
And fill'd the whole kingdom with hideous alarms;
But warmly attracting, in every direction,
They often compeli'd me to flee for protection.
But to drive me quite out of the country I'll vow
Is more than they ever were able to do;
For when I no more with the public could blend,
In private I always experienc'd a friend.
Nay! and not a mere lout, nor of ſuch a low ſtation,
But ſome who've been held in high reputation
In handling the reins of this well-manag'd nation;
And if there's belief in a common report,
They've oftentimes taken me with'em to Court.
Tho' not with that freedom they formerly did,
For when I'm thus favour'd I now muſt be hid

But now I appear to the public, believe me,
To hear what a name thoſe gentlemen give me;
If bad as was ever at Billingſgate heard,
I muſt take it with patience, nor anſwer a word:
But if good, (tho' that's better than my expectation)
I'm ready again to reſume my old ſtation.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

An Elegy written on the Death of the late Mr. J. K. Jean, an Emigrant French Prieſt, who, for a few Years, inſtructed the young Gentlemen of Mr. Weatherdon's Academy in Newton Abbot, Devon, in the French Language.

FROM country, friends, and kindred driv'n,
By baſe ſedition's factious crew,
He truſted in the Judge of Heav'n,
And kept eternity in view.

From Gallia's blood-drench'd land he came,
A prieſt for piety renown'd;
Gallia! whoſe moſt deteſted name
With horror fill'd the world around.

To England's happy, ſea-girt ſhore,
From murd'rous fiends his life to ſave,
Patient he emigrated o'er,
But found e'er long a peaceful grave.

Yet had he not this life reſign'd
Before he learnt with utmoſt dread,
Thoſe relatives he'd left behind
Had met that fate from which he fled.

And tho' no kindred hand was near,
In death's dread hour his eyes to cloſe;
To ſoften with affection's tear
His paſſage to his laſt repoſe:

With fortitude theſe ills he bore,
And humbly kiſs'd affliction's rod;
Aſſur'd, when theſe ſhould fling no more,
They'd prove a bleſſing ſent from God.

Of mind ſerene, of manners mild,
With more than common patience fraught,
He thro' his ſorrows faintly ſmil'd,
Nor harbour'd one complaining thought.

Much leſs with impious words did he
Dare to arraign Jehovah's ways;
But whatſoe'er his lot might be,
To God he offer'd up his praiſe.

And now he reaps a juſt reward,
For all his ſuff'ring merit here;
Sure of his Maker's kind regard,
Whoſe laws he ever did revere.

For tho' entomb'd in foreign clay,
His poor remains unhonour'd lie,

His

His ſoul we hope (as well we may)
With Heav'n's King now reigns on high.
Then ſpare your pity, mortals frail!
Like him to live, like him to die,
Learn! and you'll find 'twill more avail
Than the weak teaf or uſeleſs ſigh.

Y. Z.

A PICTURE.

AH! who art thou of more than mortal birth,
Whom Heaven adorns with beauty's brighteſt beam,
On wings of ſpeed why ſpurn'ſt thou thus the earth?
" Known but to few, OCCASION is my name.
" No reſt I find, for underneath my feet
" The eternal circle rolls that ſpeeds my way;
" Not the ſtrong eagle wings her courſe ſo fleet,
" And theſe my glittering pinions I diſplay,
" That from the dazzling ſight thine eyes may turn away,
" In full luxuriance o'er my angel face,
" Float my thick treſſes, free and unconfin'd,
" That thro' the veil my features few may trace;
" But not one lock adorns my head behind,
" Once paſt, for ever gone, no mortal might
" Shall bid the circling wheel return again."
But who is ſhe, companion of thy flight?
" REPENTANCE, if thou graſp at me in vain,
" Then muſt thou in thine arms her loathſome form retain.
" And now while heedleſs of the truths I ſing,
" Vain thoughts and fond deſires thy time employ;
" Ah! ſeeſt thou not—on ſwift but ſilent wing
" The form that ſmil'd ſo fair has glided by?"

BIRTH-DAY ODE *to* MARY.

SWEET is the breath of early chaſte-ey'd morn,
When od'rate flow'rs perfuming blend with air;
Sweet is the bluſhing roſe when day's firſt dawn
Peeps forth, and ſmiles throughout the lucid tear.

Sweet with the morn aſcending 'tis to trace,
Ere ardent Phœbus ſheds his genial heat,
The vernal beauties of fair nature's face,
And court the zephyrs in the cool retreat;

Or in the myſtic grot, or length'ning maze;
Or midſt the flow'ry vale, or verdant field;
Or where the margent ſtream meandring plays;
Or rocky founts melodious murmurs yield.

Theſe, which invite the ſoul to ſolemn thought,
And the pure heart to ſacred muſing bend;
So by this day's bright affluence am I taught
To muſe the virtues of my boſom's friend.

Let loftier bards in jargon pomp rehearſe,
Who would of fame the bauble wreath beguile;
Capricious ſons! I prize your fame, nor verſe,
The wreath I ſeek is Mary's fav'ring ſmile.

CAROLUS.